(d) if so, whether Government have fixed any time-bound programme and earmarked funds therefor; and

(e) whether it would be an international airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government of Maharashtra has appointed Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MICD) as a nodal agency for this project. Airports Authority of India is providing technical consultancy services in finalization of site preparation of master plan and detailed project report. Approval has been given to Government of Maharashtra for setting up of an airport of international standards at Chakan.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) A decision will be taken after completion of airport depending upon international traffic potential and requirement from Airlines.

Air services from Madhya Pradesh

†1319. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with the Central Government to provide air service from Madhya Pradesh to South India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present arrangement for air services to link Madhya Pradesh with South India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present there is no direct air link between Madhya Pradesh and South India. Passengers in Madhya Pradesh desirous of travelling to stations in South India can avail the flights from Delhi and Mumbai.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.